



City of Seattle

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Seattle City Light

Jorge Carrasco, Superintendent

# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 31, 2006**

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## **Seattle Joins National Utility Leaders in New Commitment to Energy Efficiency**

**SEATTLE**—Today Seattle City Light joins with more than 50 leading organizations across the country adopt a new National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency. Released today at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Summer Meeting in San Francisco, the Action Plan provides a comprehensive framework to meet the nation's growing demand for energy in our homes, buildings, and industries.

Developed by a Leadership Group that includes 23 electric and gas utilities, 7 state utility regulators, and more than 30 other organizations, this Action Plan will defer the need for 40 new 500 Megawatt-power plants, avoid greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of over 35 million vehicles, lower the costs of air pollution controls, and reduce prices for natural gas. To achieve these goals, City Light Superintendent Jorge Carrasco joins with his colleagues on the Leadership Group to challenge other energy users and stakeholders to join them in implementing the following Action Plan recommendations:

- Recognize energy efficiency as a high-priority energy resource,
- Make a strong, long-term commitment to implement cost-effective energy efficiency as a resource,
- Broadly communicate the benefits of and opportunities for energy efficiency,
- Promote sufficient, timely, and stable program funding to deliver energy efficiency where cost-effective,
- Modify policies to align utility incentives with the delivery of cost-effective energy efficiency and modify ratemaking practices to promote energy efficiency investments.

“As the first electric utility in the country to achieve greenhouse gas neutrality, Seattle City Light embraces the objectives of the Action Plan. We know what can happen when these recommendations are put into practice,” said City Light Superintendent Jorge Carrasco.

In support of the Action Plan, Seattle and Seattle City Light commit to the following:

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700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3300, PO Box 34023, Seattle, WA 98124-4023

Tel: (206) 684-3000, TDD: (206) 684-3225, FAX: (206) 625-3709, [http:// www.cityofseattle.net/light](http://www.cityofseattle.net/light)

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***Our Vision, Mission and Values:** Seattle City Light is a publicly owned utility dedicated to exceeding our customers' expectations in producing and delivering environmentally responsible, safe, low cost and reliable power.*

***We are committed to delivering the best customer service experience of any utility in the nation.***

1. Reaffirm cost effective conservation as the first priority resource to Seattle City Light's future energy needs.
2. Strive to meet all new electrical demands from Seattle City Light customers with conservation and renewable resources.
3. Acquire additional energy efficiency as a key component in City Light's strategy to maintain zero net greenhouse gas emissions.
4. Recognize and assess conservation resources on an equivalent basis with generation and other supply side resources in 2006 Integrated Resource Plan.
5. Develop 5-year (2008-2012) conservation program action plan that will:
  - Meet direction and energy savings target set in 2006 Integrated Resources Plan;
  - Describe a portfolio of programs which will serve all key customer classes and meet established resource cost effectiveness criteria;
  - Lay out program energy savings goals, funding and staffing requirements over the 5-year period;
  - Explore opportunities to advance building codes and energy standards to the highest level consistent with other public policy goals and objectives;
  - Reflect market transformation as an integral component of overall strategy.
6. Support statewide workshops to explore greater investment in energy efficiency resources.

"These commitments are at the heart of our Integrated Resource Planning process," Carrasco said. "As we move forward in partnership with our customers and communities, these priorities will ensure that we meet our energy needs while sustaining and protecting our environment for future generations."

For more information on the National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency, visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/eeactionplan.htm>

For more information on the July 31 NARUC meeting, visit: <http://summer.narucmeetings.org/>

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